Collaborative Team Roles

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| **Role** | Description |
| Clarifier | Gives relevant examples; offers rationales; restates problems |
| Compromiser | Willing to yield when necessary for progress |
| Elaborator | Builds on the suggestions of others |
| Encourager | Praise and supports others |
| Gate-keeper | Keeps communication open; encourages participation |
| Harmonizer | Mediates differences; reconciles points of view |
| Initiator | Suggests new and different ways |
| Opinion-giver | States pertinent beliefs about discussion and others’ suggestions |
| Summarizer | Reviews discussion; pulls it together |
| Tension reliever | Uses humor or calls for break at appropriate times to draw off negative feelings. |
| Tester | Raises questions to test out whether the group is ready to come to a decision. |

Adapted with permission from Donham van Deusen, Jean. “The Library Media Specialist as a Member of the Teaching Team: An Insider and an Outsider.” *Journal of Curriculum and Supervision* (Spring 1996): 229-248.